

From: smartplan@tre.state.ma.us
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2013 4:00 AM
To: Farak, Sonja (DPH)
Subject: SMART NEWS FEBRUARY 2013



SMART NEWS

Winter: February 2013

The Bi-monthly eBulletin of the Massachusetts Deferred Compensation SMART Plan

Highlights of this issue include:

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Message from the Executive Director, Deferred Compensation

As the New Year begins, I encourage each participant to take stock of his or her portfolio to ensure you stay on track to meet your retirement goals. If you have stopped your deferrals to the Plan, now would be the perfect time to re-start your contributions. Re-starting your contributions to the SMART Plan has never been easier. Our Auto Deferral Increase tool allows you to set your savings deferral amount at a rate that you are comfortable with and then automatically increase that savings rate over time.

Please also note that the annual contribution limits for the 457 Plan have increased to \$17,500 for 2013. Please join us for an upcoming SMART Retirement and Beyond Seminar. These seminars are a great way to meet our dedicated SMART Plan staff and learn how the SMART Plan can help you prepare for a more secure retirement. You will also learn how the SMART Plan can complement your defined benefit pension.

As we strive to help meet the needs of our participants, we are pleased to announce that we have negotiated lower fees for three of our index funds. Fees for the International Stock Index Fund were reduced from 14 to 12 basis points; fees for the Small Company Stock Index Fund were reduced from 9.5 to 7 basis points, and fees for the Treasury Inflation Protection "TIPS" Index Fund were reduced from 8 to 6 basis points.

We will continue to set high standards of excellence and work hard to ensure we meet and exceed the expectations of our participants. Your feedback and participation in the Plan is very important to us and we encourage you to continue an open dialogue with your deferred compensation SMART Plan.

David Lynch, Executive Director

Upcoming SMART Retirement & Beyond Seminars

Join us for an upcoming SMART Retirement & Beyond Session, a retirement planning education seminar series for Massachusetts state employees, sponsored by the State Board of Retirement and the SMART Plan.

The seminar series is designed to provide you with the information and tools needed to help you achieve a financially secure retirement. Representatives from the Group Insurance Commission, SMART Plan, and the State Board of Retirement will be on hand to answer questions. To register for a seminar, visit www.mass.gov/retirement. Seminars are all from 6:00pm - 8:00 pm.

Date	Location	Room
Feb. 7	Holyoke Community College	Peoplesbank in Kitridge Building
Feb. 21	Fitchburg State College	Ellis White Lecture Hall
Feb. 28	Roxbury Community College	Academic Building, 1 st Floor, Room 121
Mar. 14	Westfield State University	Loughman Living Room, Scanlon Building
Mar. 21	Roxbury Community College	Academic Building, 1 st Floor, Room 121
Mar. 28	Bridgewater State University	Conant Science & Math Center, Conant Auditorium

Rejoin the SMART Plan

Are you Taking Advantage of the Massachusetts Deferred Compensation SMART Plan?

If you have stopped contributing and would like to rejoin the SMART Plan, wait no longer... The Massachusetts Deferred Compensation SMART Plan is proud to be the trusted partner for your retirement savings. We understand that our responsibility as plan administrators begins with you, the participant, and helps to make a difference in your life in a practical and personal way. The SMART Plan continues to enrich the lives and futures of thousands of active employees and retirees who have successfully started their retirement journeys. This success can be measured by the testimony of one of our proud program participants:

"My advice is join the SMART Plan right away and then just slowly increase contributions over the years. That way, when your 25 years go by, like mine did, in the blink of an eye, that money will be there for you."

Rick W., Lieutenant, Massachusetts State Police

Rejoin the SMART Plan today!! Taking action now improves your chances of attaining a comfortable and secure retirement. Our investment lineup offers flexible investment funds that satisfy the changing needs of our many participants. Contact your local SMART Plan Representative today or visit us online at www.mass-smart.com to reactivate your account and get back on track to save for a financially secure retirement.

2013 Annual Contribution Limits

CONTRIBUTION TYPE	MAXIMUM LIMIT FOR 2013
Normal Contributions Contribute a maximum of 100% of your includible compensation, not to exceed the annual IRS limit.	\$17,500

Age 50+ Catch-Up* For participants age 50 or older during the 2013 calendar year	\$23,000
Special Catch-Up During the three consecutive years prior to but not including the year that you attain normal retirement age, you're eligible if you have under contributed to the SMART Plan or another employer-sponsored retirement plan in the past	\$35,000

*You may not use the Special Catch-Up provision and the Age 50+ Catch-Up provision in the same year.

SMART Plan Representative Spotlight

SMART Plan Representative Lisa Cardinal, Account Executive, Boston Territory



Lisa Cardinal

As part of our ongoing effort to showcase our SMART Plan Representatives, we add this new feature that introduces you to and highlights the dedicated, knowledgeable and well trained staff that handles our members account inquiries, enrollments and other questions daily.

SMART Plan Account Representative, Lisa Cardinal, is one of the Representatives assigned to Boston.

Lisa also works from the State Retirement Board SMART Plan office on Mondays.

Lisa holds a CEBS certificate designation and can be reached at Lisa.Cardinal@gwrs.com

REMINDER: SMART Plan has moved to One Winter Street in Downtown Boston

The SMART Plan Boston office, along with the State Board of Retirement, has moved to One Winter Street, 8th Floor. While our physical location has changed, we will continue to provide a high level of customer service and assistance to all plan participants by offering the same regular office hours and services. We encourage our members to contact us at smartplan@tre.state.ma.us or contact your local SMART Plan Representative at (877) 457-1900.

Join the Massachusetts Deferred Compensation SMART Plan today!

Whether you've been employed for years or are a new state or municipal employee, put the SMART Plan to work for you. Enroll online at www.mass-smart.com or call (877) 457-1900 to speak with a Plan Representative.

Make a SMART Choice for Your Retirement Planning

(Another Benefit of Your Award Winning SMART Plan)

Don't leave your retirement to chance! Learn how the award winning SMART Plan can help you plan and reach your retirement goals and dreams. Our knowledgeable and qualified Retirement Counselors and Customer Service Representatives are ready to assist you by answering your questions and getting you started on your retirement path.

SMART Plan Participant Testimonial

SMART Plan Fun Fact ... (Did you know??)

THE AVERAGE MASSACHUSETTS STATE PENSION BENEFIT WAS \$27,243.00 IN 2012?

SMART Plan Trivia

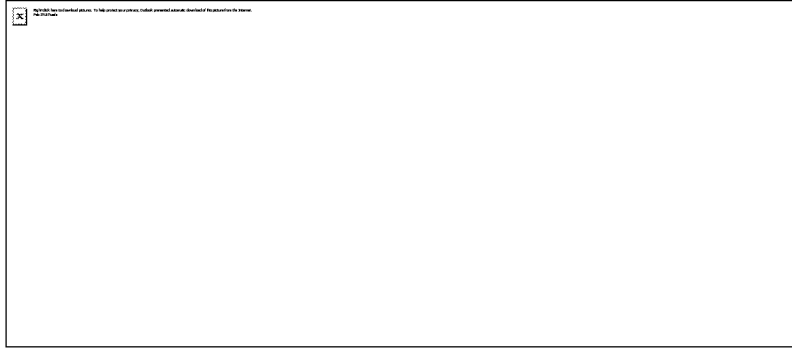
How many full-time employees are enrolled in the SMART Plan?

A. 76,850 B. 80,560 C. 93,235

Answers to the trivia question will be posted pre-login on our website www.mass-smart.com, SMART NEWS eBulletin

SMART Plan Cryptogram Puzzle

See if you can complete the puzzle and solve the phrase below!! Ready! Set! Go!



Answers to the puzzle will be posted pre-login on our website www.mass-smart.com, SMART NEWS eBulletin

We want to hear from you!

Have a testimonial you would like to share and have featured?
Got questions or feedback?

Please email us at smartplan@tre.state.ma.us. Thank you!

Please forward this Bulletin.